

Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Date: December 1, 2005

Inspector: Don Ukers

Location: Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane)

Storm/

Rain Event: Approximately 0.88- 1.49" of rain fell over 11/29-11/30 as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ROW is accessible from Gallows Hill Road by an existing trail path with a swing gate, an approved access path in from the east of the ROW, and the access road passing through the Archers Lane substation. 12/01/05 - The access roads and ROW were very muddy at this time and ruts were present. Equipment had been slipping off the road as well 12/01/05 -The silt fence at some of the low spot/wetland crossings along the ROW may need to be extended or repaired. When maintained, these areas work very well to filter out sediment from the wetlands. 12/01/05. - An area of silt fence near a wetland crossing was down along the road in from Archers Lane. 12/1/05 - Some sediment tracking was noted at Gallows Hill, and sediment was being swept from Diamond Hill Road at the time of inspection (see transition station report). 12/01/05. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Most roads are in good shape. Consider using mats whenever the soil is not stable enough. If any areas still have ruts at the end of the work, it will have to be regraded to return to original conditions. 12/01/05 - Sedimentation is not an issue in most locations at this time but continue to monitor. With unstable driving conditions, and significant ruts created, mats should be considered. 12/01/05 - The wetland areas will be restored when all work in this section is completed as this is considered temporary access. See erosion control section for more detail. 12/01/05. - The contractor was aware of the problem and repairs were scheduled for the day of inspection. 12/1/05 - Continue to monitor for any issues. 12/01/05

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Foundation construction	<p>-The installation of the first structure along the ROW at Archers Lane was nearing completion and all other poles were in place. Riser work continues on the structure nearest Gallows Hill Road. 12/01/05.</p> <p>-Drilling operations continue in preparation for a structure foundation adjacent to Archers Lane. 11/17-12/01/05.</p>	<p>-Although stockpiles were noted at some sites, most were located in upland areas and fairly well contained. 12/01/05</p> <p>- See dewatering and erosion controls sections.</p> <p>- None at this time. 12/01/05.</p>
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)</p> <p>Erosion and Sediment Controls</p>	<p>-Water may be flowing around and/or underneath the silt fence, leading to turbidity in some of the low wetland areas. Silt fence should be extended in areas where pooled water is reaching beyond the limits of the fence. All silt fence should be checked to be sure it is still toed in properly. 12/0105.</p> <p>- The ROW and roads are extremely muddy. 12/1/05</p> <p>- The 2nd structure in from Gallows Hill has had a bare soil stockpile/slope adjacent to the wetland with controls still well in place. 11/23-12/01/05.</p> <p>-On the Archers Lane side of the ROW, a vehicle has disturbed the soil and vegetation on the edge of the access road. 12/01/05.</p> <p>- Sediment, which is likely turbid dewatering from an excavation, had been placed at the top of slope but had drained to a wetland area. This is located off the left fork of the access path to the ROW coming from the Archers Lane</p>	<p>- The silt fence should be extended, towed in, and/or repaired as necessary. When maintained, the silt fence does a very good job of keeping turbid water out of the wetlands. Continue to check status of silt fence along the crossings. 12/01/05.</p> <p>- Mats may be necessary to stabilize the access road for equipment movement 12/1/05</p> <p>- It should be confirmed whether this disturbed area still exists on site. If so, the area should be regraded, pulled back from the fence, and restored when feasible. 12/01/05</p> <p>-The ruts should be repaired and silt fence may be needed along the edge of disturbance. It should be confirmed that this did not occur within a resource area. 12/01/05.</p> <p>- NU and the contractor were confirming the exact location in order to take action. It should be confirmed that the sediment has been scraped up and removed as best feasible. Control all dewatering</p>

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	<p>station. 11/17-12/01/05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silt fence was in place around several stockpiles on the ROW as well as near the base of some foundation slopes. Almost all are in upland locations. 12/01/05. - Erosion controls and check dams were noted along a slope off the access road. 12/01/05 - Tarp/basins used either for concrete washouts or dewatering the foundations had been noted on the ROW near Gallows Hill and another on the Archers Lane side. 11/17/05-12/01/05. -The clearing at the Archers Lane/ROW edge has been stabilized with hay mulch. 12/01/05. 	<p>discharge especially near wetlands. 11/17-12/01/05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It should be confirmed whether the stockpiles still exist on site. If so, silt fence should be maintained until they are removed. 12/01/05 - None at this time. 12/01/05. -It should be confirmed as to whether these tarp/basins still exist on site. Continue to use these areas if needed and maintain them. 12/01/05 -None at this time. 12/01/05.
Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The D&M plan approved stone on geotextile fabric at the wetland crossings has worked well, but the wetland near Archers Lane had received some turbid water. The Gallows Hill wetland remained clear even though water had pooled around the fence. Continue to toe in and/or extend the fence as necessary. 12/01/05 -There was what appears to be excavation-dewatering discharge that drained to a wetland area off the left fork access road near Archers Lane. 11/17-12/01/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The crossings have been used consistently. As the access is considered temporary, the stone will be removed when final work ends so the wetlands can be restored. 12/01/05. Extend and/or toe in areas of silt fence where necessary. -It should be confirmed that all solid sediment was contained and removed. 11/17-12/01/05
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The overhead portions have been identified as having potential habitat for several state listed species, including several species of turtles and plants. This particular portion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Crews had been doing daily sweeps for any turtles in the work areas and noting the results of their efforts on daily construction reports although turtles would no longer be

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	<p>of overhead work includes the turtle habitat area. 9/15-12/01/05.</p> <p>-The Eastern box turtle has not been observed since the first sighting and are likely in the process of hibernating. 12/01/05.</p>	active. 12/01/05
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	<p>- Clearing at the Archers Lane/ROW edge was done by CL&P for the recently approved access road to a new structure to be constructed just off the station yard. This area has been stabilized with hay mulch. 11/2-12/01/05</p> <p>- Accidental disturbance to vegetation occurred in a small area off the access road due to equipment movement. 12/1/05</p>	<p>- Extend erosion controls here if necessary. 12/01/05</p> <p>- Repair and restore the area. 12/1/05</p>
Dewatering	<p>- As stated previously, dewatering from an excavation appears to have occurred in an uncontrolled location at the top of slope and drained to a wetland. 11/17-12/01/05</p> <p>- Very few activities remain that would potentially require dewatering. 12/1/05</p>	<p>-It should be confirmed that all solid sediment was removed from the area. Control all dewatering or wet excavation near resource areas. 11/17-12/01/05</p> <p>- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource areas. 12/01/05</p>
Blasting	-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 12/01/05.	-None at this time. 12/01/05.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Spills and Material Storage	- No further spills or drips were noted at this inspection and the issue last week was handled appropriately. 12/01/05	- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site - Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst case scenarios. - Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled. - Take care not to get carried away and to be vigilant when refueling. Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands. Use proper storage for all materials.
Additional Observations		

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Thursday December 8, 2005

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Inspector's Signature:

Diana Walden for Don Ukers



View of the structure off Gallows Hill where risers are being installed and the structure prepared for line work. 12/01/05



Photo on the left is looking along the ROW where the majority of poles have been installed. Photo on the right shows the installation of the structure located across from the transition station, at the beginning of the Archers Lane portion of the ROW. 12/01/05



Photo on the left shows one of the wetland crossings along the access road where pooled turbid water is appears to be flowing underneath or around the fence to the wetland beyond. Photo on the right shows silt fence in need of repair at that same crossing. 12/01/050



View of another wetland crossing where pooled water extends beyond the limits of the silt fence but remains clear at this point. Fence should still be extended. (12/01/05)



View of the cleared area at the Archers Lane/ROW edge, which has been stabilized with hay mulch.
12/01/05



Photo on the left shows the muddy conditions on the access road causing some equipment to slip. Mats should be considered in these conditions. Photo on the right shows the disturbance created by a vehicle off the road. The area should be repaired and silt fence should be added here as stormwater appears to flow in that direction. 12/01/05.